

Poland Municipal Forest Board Meeting April 27, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by the Chair.

Board Members Present:

James Brammer

Bob Elias

Chris Graff, *Village Council Representative*

Dr. Ian Renne

BJ Sulka

Mark Thompson

Elinor Zedaker, *Chair*

Quorum: Yes

Approval of March 23, 2021 Forest Board Minutes: Graff made a motion to approve the minutes, Sulka seconded, all said AYE.

Finance Report: Elias reported; There is \$30,700.18 in the Forest budget. \$1,400 spent on supplies and materials, \$1,000 for limestone. Thompson made a motion to approve the financial report, Graff seconded, all said aye.

Forest Foundation Financial Support for the Three Proposed Projects: Zedaker and Thompson were present during the Forest Foundation meeting to discuss the forest projects currently under consideration. The Foundation Board will advise the Forest Board when they have made their decision on our request for funding.

SB 310 Updates: The board discussed bank stabilization along Bluebell Trail which now has an enlarging fissure causing further destruction of the trail. Renne asked for more details about the proposed stabilization project.

Concept designs used by the National Park Service illustrating walking paths and bog bridges were passed around the table. A packet of information for the board will be put together.

Planting Saplings: Brammer reported about the tree planting that was conducted in the Poland Forest on Saturday, April 25th. Kurt Hilderbrand, a volunteer at Scout Camp Stambaugh contacted us about this opportunity. FB member Brammer, Poland Village Tree Commissioner, determined the list of preferred species. First Energy donated 150 tree saplings of various Ohio native species. Scout Troop 44 and Scout Troop 2 and community members volunteered to plant the saplings throughout the forest. Each new tree is protected from the deer by a blue plastic sleeve.

Garlic Mustard Pull: Renne spoke about the Garlic Mustard Pull & Stream Cleanup that took place Saturday, April 10th in the forest. Forty-eight volunteers showed up to pull garlic mustard and small invasive plants. Renne had a display of Barberry, Privet, Multiflora Rose and Honeysuckle that should be removed. Thank you to Graff and Becker Funeral Homes for donating the bottled water on ice.

Report Updates:

Beaver Dam Bridge: Thompson spoke about the utility poles that Brammer requested from Ohio Edison as the utility company's donation to the forest for trail maintenance. Thompson and volunteers moved the poles into position for building the bridge over Beaver Dam and the creek.

Invasive Species: Brammer spoke about the invasive species project to the board and the requests made for quotes. Brammer made a motion to hire Davey Resource Group to conduct invasive species mitigation on a section of forest property for \$5,000, Elias seconded the motion, all said aye.

Deer Exclosures: Renne marked out two spots on the map for potential deer exclosures. Elias stated there are two Eagle Scouts willing to build the exclosures. Thompson suggested Renne be in contact with Elias to coordinate the Eagle Scout candidates and these projects.

Other Business:

Forest Maps: Sulka informed the board that the printer for the trail maps are backed up in their shop, and a new supply of maps will be made available as soon as possible. There is an enlarged map of the Forest on display in both kiosks at the entrances.

Hazardous Trees on Thacher Trail: Brammer commented about hazardous trees in the forest and said he will contact Adams Tree Preservation to discuss addressing the issue.

Special Board Meeting and Forest Visit: The Forest Board agreed to plan a special meeting and tour for Thursday, May 6th at 4:00. We will start at the Zedaker Pavilion for the tour and convene the meeting at 5:00 to discuss current projects. Chair Zedaker will request a published public notice of the meeting as is required.

Public Comments: A Village resident stated her opinion about the request for money from the Foundation. She wants more information and drawings on the proposed walking trails construction be made available. Another Village resident voiced his concern with spraying herbicide near the deer exclosure, and concerns about the trail maintenance and erosion issue.

Adjourn: Since there was no further business to come before the board, Brammer made a motion to adjourn, Sulka seconded, and all said AYE.

Next Forest Board meeting: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 7:00 pm at Village Hall.

